

HONORING THE 2016–2017 GRADUATES OF THE CONGRESSIONAL YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 17, 2017

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my fellow colleagues to join me in commending the 2016–2017 Congressional Youth Advisory Council. This year, 47 Collin County students from public and private schools in grades 9 through 12 made a significant impact in their community, their country, and their Congress by participating in CYAC. Through the CYAC program, these students volunteered their talent, expertise, and time to engage on issues that are important to their generation.

I continue to be inspired by the high-caliber students who partake in my CYAC program, and this year was no exception. We had a diverse group of students who already participate in a multitude of activities including student government, community service, honor societies, athletics, fine arts, and language clubs. It was exciting to see them apply their experiences and interests to CYAC. They were always excited to share their ideas about how to create a lasting and sustainable future for our country, and it was encouraging to see their determination, knowledge, and willingness to help those around them. Throughout the past school year, the students met to discuss issues that affect our everyday lives. They then applied their knowledge to various homework assignments and group activities.

Our first meeting focused on Homeland Security—a hot topic of great interest for many CYAC students. They heard from special guests District Attorney Greg Willis, new Collin County Sheriff Jim Skinner, and FBI Special Agent in Charge Tom Petrowski. The students learned about national security at the local level and how Americans' security is a team effort between local, state, and federal leaders. The meeting concluded with a tour of the Collin County Detention Center.

Their second meeting began with the Congressional Veterans Commendation Ceremony. At this event, they learned about local veterans' inspiring stories and helped honor these veterans' unique legacies of service. Following the ceremony, students met with my Chief of Staff and Legislative Director for an insider's view on what it's like to work in the halls of Congress. The students' first semester closed with Captain Sam Brown sharing his testimony of military and civilian service. He also encouraged them to tackle obstacles and embrace taking on leadership roles.

The CYAC students kicked off the spring semester with a Mock Congress. During this event, students learned firsthand the legislative process and how Congress operates. Each student was assigned to a committee with jurisdiction over bills that they were able to amend, debate, and ultimately vote on. Lastly, the students gave back to their hometowns by completing CYAC in the Community—service projects where they volunteered their time to community service work. Altogether, our CYAC students donated over 185 community service hours to Collin County.

I thank each member of the Congressional Youth Advisory Council for making this year a

success. They are the voices of the future, and I'm proud of them for all that they've achieved. God bless them and God bless America. I salute them.

Kayla Adams, Shambhavi Badi, Shree Balaji, Brooklyn Baum, Joshua Brock, Reagan Cantrell, Allison Chang, Brandon Chen, Catherine Chen, Zachary Clonch, Emily Crone, Matthew Daley, Niruti Dhoble, Austin Dwiggin, Sam Fanatico, Nicholas Garcia, Sreeragini Ghantasala, Emma Guerra, Luke Harrell, Alice Hou, Timothy Interrante, Austin Katzer, Ruxton Kelly, Abby Kistner, Tatiana Laporte, Olivia Larson, Nicholas Le.

I-Jung Lin, David Lorenz, Jonathan Lu, Rahul Naik, Swetha Pamidimukkala, Padmashree Pandey, Purvee Patel, Jackson Pierce, David Qian, Ben Randoing, Elizabeth Reed, Emiko Rinkliff, Jakob Shackleton, Cameron Stapleton, Parker Stevens, Nicolas Teachenor, Sai Vogirala, Scott Walker, Emily Ward, Trent Yarbrough.

HONORING PRESIDENT TSAI ING-WEN'S 1ST ANNIVERSARY IN OFFICE

HON. SCOTT DesJARLAIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 17, 2017

Mr. DESJARLAIS. Mr. Speaker, since President Tsai Ing-wen of Taiwan assumed office one year ago, she has continued to bolster the robust and beneficial relationship between the United States and Taiwan.

President Tsai has repeatedly stated over the past year her commitment to the status quo across the Taiwan Strait. To help Taiwan support this goal, we must ensure that its legitimate defense requirements are adequately addressed. This is an ironclad commitment that is unequivocally articulated in the Taiwan Relations Act and the Six Assurances. In fact, in March of this year, two of our upgraded *Oli-ver Hazard Perry*-class frigates were delivered to Taiwan, highlighting our existing strong military and security ties.

Looking forward, we are confident that the U.S. and Taiwan will build on our already solid foundation and continue to foster our bilateral relations across a wide ranging number of fields. I look forward to hearing the Trump Administration's plans for deepening this relationship in the years ahead.

I congratulate President Tsai on her first anniversary as the President of Taiwan, and look forward to even closer U.S.-Taiwan cooperation under her leadership in the years to come.

CONGRATULATING THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF HOME BUILDERS ON ITS 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 17, 2017

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the National Association of Home Builders on its 75th Anniversary.

Founded in 1942, NAHB represents the interests of the nation's home building industry

and helps create a business environment that facilitates home building, enables more Americans to achieve homeownership, and provides rental housing at all price points.

As an organization, NAHB is much more than builders and remodelers. Its membership includes building trades professionals, architects and designers, developers, and representatives of countless industries that provide goods and services in support of the residential construction industry. This includes engineering, insurance, financial services, building product supply, transportation and many others.

The goal set forth in the Housing Act of 1949 of "a decent home and a suitable living environment for every American family" has been a guiding principle for NAHB and its members, and they have made great strides in achieving that goal. During NAHB's 75 years, the total number of housing units in the United States has more than tripled, growing from about 35 million to almost 136 million.

The nation's standard of living has also increased significantly as a result of the hard work of NAHB members, who build roughly 80 percent of the new homes constructed in the U.S. each year. A look back shows how far we have come since 1942, when more than 30 percent of the nation's homes had no running water or flush toilets, almost 40 percent had no bathtub or shower, 18 percent needed major repairs, almost 60 percent lacked central heat, and 20 percent of occupied units were overcrowded. Now, virtually all homes have complete plumbing systems and central heating, and many fewer homes are considered overcrowded or in need of major repairs.

NAHB members were instrumental in these significant advances in the quality of the nation's housing and the resulting improvement in the quality of life and standard of living in our country. Through the decades, those same members have also been at the forefront of innovation, helping to make the nation's homes significantly more resource efficient and sustainable.

Equally important, NAHB members are vital to the social fabric of their local communities and are actively involved in a multitude of civic and philanthropic endeavors. America's home builders are also essential to the nation's economic health. Home building accounts for roughly 16 percent of the total U.S. economy.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor and congratulate NAHB on the organization's 75th Anniversary. I ask my colleagues in the House to join me in acknowledging the important role that the residential construction industry has played over the last 75 years in the nation's economy and the lives of its citizens.

And I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking the National Association of Home Builders and its members for serving the nation through their ongoing commitment to building the nation's homes and communities and in urging them to remain steadfast in their efforts to meet the housing needs of all American families.

HONORING BRELAND PENDLETON

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 17, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable student,

Brealand Pendleton. Brealand Pendleton is the daughter of Mr. Christopher and Aubrey Pendleton of Terry, MS. She is one of four siblings: Chris, Braydon and Aubrey Pendleton. Currently, Brealand is a Senior of Terry High School where she will be graduating 6th out of a class of 320.

Brealand Pendleton is a very outgoing young lady that has served in several capacities in her school. Brealand has been a member of the Band, Flag Team (Senior Captain), Tennis Team (Senior Captain), Beta Club (Senior Secretary), National Honor Society (Junior Treasury, Senior Vice-President), Interact Club (Senior Secretary) and the National Society of High School Scholars. Brealand has over 40 hours of community service which varies from local school participation, helping at the Food Network, serving at Stewpot, working with the school blood drive, contributor to the Angel Tree and other various community projects.

Brealand will continue her education at Xavier University in Louisiana, where she will major in Biochemistry. Brealand is a shining example for Terry High School and her community as she works to make it a better place.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a remarkable student, leader and community volunteer, Ms. Brealand Pendleton, for her hard work and dedication at Terry High School and throughout the communities of Mississippi.

RECOGNIZING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 17, 2017

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 75th anniversary of the evacuation and incarceration of Japanese-Americans during World War II, recognized today as the Day of Remembrance. Thousands of Japanese-Americans gather on this day to mark the solemn occasion of one of the darkest moments of American history.

On February 19, 1942 President Franklin Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066, following the attack on Pearl Harbor. The order allowed for forced removal and internment of anyone of Japanese descent, many of whom were American citizens and legal permanent residents. A total of 120,000 Japanese-Americans were imprisoned between 1942 and 1946. All those held were never charged with any crime, their only "crime" having been their cultural heritage. Innocent families were forcefully stripped of their home, jobs and livelihoods. Families were given ten days to dispose of their property and possessions, only allowed to bring what they were able to carry.

My district included two of the sixteen temporary detention centers, located at the Fresno and Merced Fairgrounds. Most of the 5,344 held at the Fresno "Assembly" Detention Center were there for six months before being transferred to concentration camps in Arkansas. Over 4,600 people were held in the Merced "Assembly" Center during the spring and summer of 1942, before eventually being taken by train to a concentration camp in Colorado.

Achieving peace today requires recognizing the dark parts of our history and honoring the memory of those who were affected. Through the hard work of community members, today both the Fresno Fairgrounds and Merced Fairgrounds are home to memorials dedicated to the victims. Both sites feature plaques with the names of those who were imprisoned and stories depicting their harrowing experiences. In Fresno, the Fresno County Historical Museum features a permanent display entitled "Japanese in the San Joaquin Valley", highlighting those who have made significant contributions to our Valley.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives join me in recognizing the 75th anniversary of the evacuation and incarceration of thousands of innocent Japanese-Americans. It is both fitting and appropriate that we mark this solemn day and pay tribute to the thousands of Japanese-Americans that were imprisoned and their families, who today are staples not only in my district, but across the United States.

MAJOR GENERAL WILMOT

HON. BRAD R. WENSTRUP

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 17, 2017

Mr. WENSTRUP. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Major General David Wilmot on his retirement from the United States Army, and to thank him for his dedicated service to the United States of America.

During Major General Wilmot's many years of service in the Army, including his most recent assignment as the Deputy Surgeon General for the Army National Guard, Assistant Surgeon General for Quality and Safety, and Deputy Chief of Staff, Quality and Safety, Office of the Surgeon General of the Army, he has proved a top leader in medical readiness, shaping readiness, health care, and personnel issues for the Army National Guard.

In our current time of needed growth and development of the United States Armed Forces, medical readiness and personal is more necessary than ever, to ensure our warfighters are properly equipped for the job our country sends them to do. Major General Wilmot's experience has truly been a service to this country, and those who fight for its freedom.

Congratulations to Major General Wilmot on his retirement.

HONORING JOHN EVANS

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 17, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. John Evans upon the occasion of being awarded General Manager of the Year for a large property by the American Hotel and Lodging Association (AHLA). Mr. Evans is the general manager of the Silverado Resort in Napa, California.

Mr. Evans was raised in Marysville, Washington, where his first job was working as a paperboy with two routes. He earned his

Bachelor of Applied Science in Organizational Management from Friends University, after which he got his first start in the hospitality business at the age of twenty-four when his mentor, Jerry Smith, guided him in managing a small lodge. Before accepting his current position at the Silverado Resort in 2010, Mr. Evans worked as the interim general manager of the historic Seaview Hotel near Atlantic City, New Jersey and as the general manager of the Ritz-Carlton Resort in Half Moon Bay, California.

The AHLA awards their Stars of the Industry Awards to individuals who perform at the highest level of excellence, demonstrating superior leadership, dedication, and a passion for service. Mr. Evans exemplifies all of these traits. He successfully led his team through and out of the recent recession. Mr. Evans lists family values, integrity, and generosity as characteristics of leaders he strives to emulate. With over thirty-two years of experience leading teams and managing hospitality properties, Mr. Evans has been awarded the Six Sigma green belt and is recognized as first-level sommelier.

Mr. Evans also displayed the same leadership and organizational aptitude in his service on the board of Hands and Hearts for Children, an auxiliary of the Children's Mercy Hospital in Kansas City.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. John Evans deserves to be recognized as the General Manager of the Year today by virtue of his leadership, commitment, and passion for service. I am proud to have such a man working and living in our community. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor them here today.

RECOGNIZING PRESIDENT TSAI ING-WEN OF TAIWAN

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 17, 2017

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, Saturday, May 20 marks the one-year anniversary of the inauguration of President Tsai Ing-wen of Taiwan. President Tsai's election was not only historic, in that she is the first woman to be elected to that high office, but as the third peaceful election transferring power from one political party to another. It also demonstrates the maturity of Taiwan's democracy—a system where the will of the people is respected and followed.

The relationship between Taiwan and the United States is one of shared values, and is cemented by the 1979 Taiwan Relations Act, a creation of the Congress, and the Six Assurances of 1982 by President Ronald Reagan. It is supported by countless freedom-loving Americans, many of whom are members of Taiwanese-American communities all over the United States.

While our two countries have much to celebrate on this occasion, old challenges are resurfacing where Taiwan's participation as a constructive member of the global community is concerned. This is most recently manifest in the withholding of the invitation to the World Health Assembly that begins on May 22. Taiwan's 23 million people have much to offer the other peoples of the globe, and in a time of unique challenges, the best minds and talents